

[Interview with Vito Cacciola #17]

ORIGINAL MSS. OR FIELD NOTES (Check one)

PUB. Living Lore in New England

TITLE Italian Cobbler, Beverly - #17 (M. R. Lovett)

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Paper No. 17

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INTERVIEW

with

VITO CACCIOLA

. . .

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By

Martin R. Lovett

. . .

"As well as remembered"

. . .

INTERVIEW

with

VITO CACCIOLA

. . .

By

MERTON R. LOVETT

. . .

(From Memory)

"Nexta Sunday I go to de wedding. The man's a customer of of mine. Dis couple will getta married in de Community Center. First they getta ceremony by de priest.

"They make de festival in Community Center because it holda many peoples. Besides it have a bar. Everybody hava de good time.

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"They will danca and drinka de health to de bride. They will have mucha good time. De bride will rakea in lots of monies.

"I giva dem \$2.00 bill in de envelope. De husband bringa me business. He's gotta much courage to marry, more than I've gotta.

"Now de young girls makes bada a wives. All de time they wanta fun. They spenda money fast.

"No, de times have chang-ed Mr. Lovett. De boy and girl now wanta no advice from their papa and mama. They say ' I lovva you!", they maka sick looks, they hugga and kissa and necka.

"Dis American love, I think itsa no good. De marriage means nothing no more. Sex intercourse mena nothing. Love! Love! Its justa operation of de blood. They get infuriated. The man saya "Lets geta married quicka babee!" She say: " Sure darling; " " You is so strong as bull. I can't waita. If we is unsatisfy, we getta divorce next week."

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"I tella you how de Italian used to get married before he maka dis monkey business. De girl's father and mother finda out, is de man a good character. Is he gota opportunities?

"They maka no hurry. De girl must geta her dowry ready. She maka one dozen de underthings, one dozen de sheets, one dozen de towel, one dozen everything.

"Never does de boy and de girl make love. Never is they alone. They do not go to de joy ride alone. Always they hava some one to watcha dem. What you call it? Yes, de chaperone.

"Now de young peoples go to de beach. They is mosta nak-ed. They laya on de sand. When it geta dark, what do they do? I cannot tella you, Mr. Lovett.

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"One time no gooda Italian girl do so. She wasa always polite. She priza virtue. She's de virgin. If she wanta make mistake, she no hava chance.

"Her papa watcha her all de time. He say to de boy, " Dis girl isa mine till she geta married. I promise her to you. 'till that time I guarda her. You will geta a great treasure - a girl what isa pure and good. We would die of shame if she isa no virgin. ["]?]

For de wedding next Sunday, I getta de white shirt. I weara de tails too. I hire him in de store. Whena you go to a wedding, I tella you where to getta de tails, Mr. Lovett."